

Happy by mommy_muppet

Series: [Harringrove Hickey Happy-Hour \[6\]](#)

Category: Stranger Things (TV 2016)

Genre: Caught, Hickeys, M/M, PDA, Spying

Language: English

Characters: Billy Hargrove, Dustin Henderson, Eleven | Jane Hopper, Lucas Sinclair, Maxine "Max" Mayfield, Mike Wheeler, Steve Harrington, Will Byers

Relationships: Billy Hargrove & Maxine "Max" Mayfield, Billy Hargrove/Steve Harrington, Will Byers & Steve Harrington

Status: Completed

Published: 2021-07-23

Updated: 2021-07-23

Packaged: 2022-03-31 10:29:43

Rating: Teen And Up Audiences

Warnings: Creator Chose Not To Use Archive Warnings

Chapters: 1

Words: 1,528

Publisher: [archiveofourown.org](#)

Summary:

The Party come across the Camaro at the junkyard...Billy has an unexpected visitor.

Happy

“Dustin hurry up!” Lucas screeched. The rest of The Party were standing in the Wheeler’s basement not-so patiently waiting for Dustin to finish packing. They watched as he stuffed his back pack with: binoculars, a magnifying glass, a headlamp, some weird science book about insects, and far too many snacks for one afternoon.

“We have to be prepared.” He reasoned.

“Not that prepared!” Mike said.

“Okay I’m ready.” Dustin finally said.

Everyone let out a sigh of relief and bolted upstairs before Dustin could realize he forgot the flare gun (don’t ask.)

They set out to the junkyard, none of them really knew what they were looking for, they just needed a new adventure. They hadn’t heard or seen anything of the upside down in months, and if they were being honest, it was getting quite boring.

The Party pulled up near the abandoned school bus, parked their bikes, and started digging through the piles, looking for anything interesting. All they found were random car doors and an abundance of beer cans.

“Ugh.” Max said “It looks like Billy’s been here.”

“Um, Max.” Will replied quietly and pointed to a spot in the distance.

Everyone peaked around the school bus and saw that Will was right. Parked nearly 100 yards away, was the Camaro. And to no one’s surprise they could see the back of Billy’s head as he leaned against the hood, cigarette in hand.

“Doesn’t he know this is our spot? What the hell?” Lucas said, still rightfully angry about the incident at the Byers house.

“You’d think he’d have something better to do.” Mike added.

Everyone continued to blab about just how ‘stupid’ and ‘annoying’ Billy was. El was the only one who stayed quiet. She just watched him and his body language.

He looked relaxed. She could tell he was laughing at something, or maybe with someone. Who else was there?

“He looks happy.” She said.

There was a collective “What?” from everyone else, but she just nodded towards Billy. Sure enough, they could all see him throw his head back laughing. They saw him smile a wide, real smile towards someone sitting on the ground. Max had never seen him like this, she didn’t even know it was possible for him to be happy.

Their confusion only grew when they saw who was with him. Steve stood up and took the cigarette from Billy’s hand. He took a drag.

Dustin’s eyes were comically wide. “What is Steve-”

They all stopped breathing when they saw Steve lean in and plant a kiss on Billy’s lips.

“What the hell??” Lucas gasped, but they were all thinking it. All but El, she was smiling.

They half expected Billy to beat Steve up again. But he just pulled him back in. They were basically making out at this point.

The kids decided they should probably leave when Billy picked Steve up and set him on the hood of the car. They all ducked back behind the bus before they could be seen.

“Okay gross.” Mike said.

“I think it’s sweet.” El said.

“Sweet??” Dustin asked, “Sweet? Isn’t that the guy who beat Steve up a few months ago?”

"Also that's too much PDA for me." Lucas added, raising his hands in the air in mock defeat. Max just stayed quiet.

"We should go." Will whispered. "Y'know, before we see too much."

There was no question in that. They all hopped back on their bikes and sped away.

Max was home, sitting on her bed and still very, very confused. Last she ?{}P;/ (my dog smashed my keyboard and it's cute so I'm leaving that) heard Billy and Steve were rivals...enemies. And what?? Now they're just fucking in public?

Jesus.

But Max knew El was right, Billy was happy. He was happier than she had ever seen him, even in California. And that was all thanks to Steve.

She was still curious and had so many questions. Like, how do you go from hate to love in a few months? She wanted to ask Billy but she was honestly still scared of him.

When she heard the front door open, and Billy's footsteps coming down the hall. She made up her mind.

"Hey shitbird! I'm home."

Max jumped up and poked her head into his room.

"Why are you never happy?" She said impossibly fast.

He paused. "What?"

"Why are you never happy?"

"Yeah I heard you." When Max didn't say anything else, he forced out a quiet: "I am happy."

"I know." She said, watching hundreds of emotions flash in his eyes.

“You are now. But you weren’t, not even in Cali. You’re treating me like a person...you apologized to Lucas. You’ve also got a boyfriend or something.”

Billy choked. But Max just went on.

“Congratulations by the way. And please tell Steve I said thank you. He fixed you.” Max smiled and left the room, leaving a completely stunned Billy in her wake.

Will knew he was different. He’d never had any crushes on girls like his friends had. He just wanted to stay cooped up and play Dungeons and Dragons forever.

It took him a while to realize he liked boys. It just wasn’t something people talked about, he didn’t know how it worked. And honestly, he felt alone. That was until what happened today.

Steve? Steve was gay? Finally, Will had someone else, he had someone to talk to.

That was the realization that had brought him to the Harrington’s front door. He knocked.

It didn’t take long for Steve to open the door. “Will? Are you okay?” He was obviously confused, Steve was closer with the other party members, he and Will hadn’t talked much before.

“Yeah. Are you alone?”

“Um. Yeah.”

“Can I come in?”

“Of course.” Steve still didn’t understand why Will Byers had come to him, but it was obvious that he needed help. And Steve, being Steve, always wanted to help people. “Do you need anything?”

“I just need to talk to you.”

“Alright.” Steve led them both to the kitchen and Will sat down at one of the bar stools. He looked at Will expectantly.

“The Party and I- We...were at the junkyard today.”

Steve choked.

“It’s okay!” Will clarified. “We were just surprised.”

Steve relaxed a bit. “Okay...um. Was that why you came here? To fill me in on your invasion of privacy?” He gave Will a slightly annoyed smile, but they both knew he didn’t mean it.

“No...I came because” Will took a breath. Steve was gay too! Why was he scared? It wasn’t like Steve could be homophobic. But he’d never said it out loud before, he’d never told anyone. “I like boys.” He whispered.

Steve finally understood.

“I like boys.” Will said again. “I’m- gay.” He then felt his eyes well up and tears slide down his face.

Steve was quiet for a moment before he pulled Will into a comforting hug. Will could feel Steve’s empathy through that hug...he knew exactly what this felt like.

“It’s okay.” Steve smiled. “It’s okay. There is nothing wrong with you, okay? Believe me, I know how hard it is. But look at me,” Steve pulled away from the hug to look directly into Will’s crying eyes, “You’re perfect. You are perfect. And don’t let anyone ever tell you otherwise.”

That only made Will cry harder but he nodded in recognition. Steve pulled him back into the hug.

Max was sprawled in her bed and feeling very proud of herself. She’d made Billy speechless. SHE had made him shut his goddamn mouth. She assumed the only other people who could do that were Neil and Steve. But with very different methods...obviously.

Speaking of the devil, she heard a knock on the door and Billy slowly walked into the room. He still looked horrified but he came and sat on the edge of her bed.

“Were you at the junkyard today?”

“Yep.” She replied smugly.

“Um- who else?”

“Mike and El and Will and Lucas and Dustin.” She watched his impressive, and probably highly practiced eye roll.

“Those little shits.”

“Don’t worry, we left before any clothes came off.” Max had never seen him this embarrassed and she was happy.

There was a pause, and Max could feel the mood switch, Billy was about to get serious. She’s had bad experiences with serious Billy.

“Do you care?” He asked. “That I like guys?”

“I think it’s ridiculous for anyone to care about who anyone else loves.”

“Exactly! I guess my asshole of a dad didn’t rub off on you.” Billy gave a weak smile.

“Lucky you.”

They were both quiet for a while. Max could see all of the gears turning in Billy’s head. Given his facial expressions, she assumed he was thinking about Steve.

“You really do love him don’t you?”

There was another pause before Billy nodded. They both smiled as Max got up to give Billy a hug.

It was the first hug they had ever given each other. It was a hug that told them everything was going to be okay.

"IS THAT A FUCKING HICKEY??"

"Shit."